



LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVANCED PROTECTION DUTY UNIFORM STANDARDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT | National Protection Center

BACKGROUND:

In many instances, Law Enforcement (LE) responders are first to arrive at a scene and have little or no information in advance about potential hazards. Time constraints and preparation required to gather and implement additional protective equipment often make the duty uniform their first line of defense.

In addition, the majority of LE duty uniforms are constructed from cotton, polyester, wool and rayon based textiles, and provide little or no protection from potential hazards. The duty uniform is the first layer in the officer's protective system, and understanding the limitations that exist during a rapid response, it is essential to ensure that the duty uniform does not inadvertently become a hazard itself, but increases the officer's overall protection.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:

- Examine the need for multi-threat protection integrated into law enforcement duty uniforms.
- Analyze the state of duty uniform standards and technology relative to the needs of the Federal, state, and local law enforcement through a standards assessment.
- Conduct a technology evaluation of commercial off the shelf uniform materials/system.
- Identify gaps between law enforcement threats/needs and current materials technologies, standards, and test methods.
- Provide recommendations related to the development of LE specific duty uniform standards including:
 - Minimum performance requirements
 - Applicable test methods

DELIVERABLES:

- Technology Evaluation Report
- Duty Uniform Standards Gaps Analysis Report
- Final Recommendations

CUSTOMERS:

- Department of Homeland Security
- National Institute of Standards and Technology – Office of Law Enforcement Standards
- National Institute of Justice

POINT OF CONTACT:

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**The Duty Uniform is the
First Line of Defense**

